

REMARKS

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 49, 56, 57 and 75 have been amended. Following entry of the amendments claims 49 – 51, 56 – 58, 67, 69 – 72, 75, and 76 will be pending and at issue.

SUPPORT FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims have been amended to delete reference to the human T1R3 and T1R2 SEQ ID NOS presented in the instant application. The claims have also been amended to more clearly recite “having an effect on that activity of the receptor.” Support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, e.g., the claims as filed. The amendments to the claims therefore add no new matter and entry is respectfully requested.

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Applicant has amended the claims such that they no longer refer to amino acid sequences previously elected in response to a restriction requirement. Therefore, Applicant hereby elects T1R3 sequence SEQ ID NO:20 and T1R2 sequence SEQ ID NO:8.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

The claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as allegedly indefinite for recitation of the phrase “binding to or an effect on receptor activity.” The Examiner stated that amending said language to “binding to the receptor or having an effect on the activity of the receptor” would bring the claims in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicant has amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner, and requests withdrawal of this rejection.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

The claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as allegedly anticipated by US Patent No. 6955887 to Adler. Without agreeing with the Examiner’s position but rather to further prosecution, Applicant has amended the claims to delete reference to the human T1R3 and T1R2 sequences disclosed in the instant application, and elects the corresponding mouse sequences. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Withdrawal of the pending rejections and reconsideration of the claims are respectfully requested, and a notice of allowance or entry of an appropriate office action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any questions concerning this Response, the Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' representative at (415) 875-2316.

Respectfully submitted,
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